



Wisconsin Conservation Congress  
Land Use  
Meeting Minutes

**WCC Meeting Minutes**

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|                          |            |         |                               |
|--------------------------|------------|---------|-------------------------------|
| <b>ORDER OF BUSINESS</b> | 12/01/2018 | 9:30 am | Portage County Public Library |
|--------------------------|------------|---------|-------------------------------|

**I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

|                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Meeting called to order by | Chair Tom Johnston at 9:35 am |
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**B. ROLL CALL**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| ATTENDEES | Larry Wehrheim, Steve Klock, Craig Raschein, Keith Propson, Michael Hayes, Dave Ninneman, Nathanael Brown, Curt Loew, Tom Johnston, Stuart Boren, Bryce Luchterhand,             |
| EXCUSED   | Michael Hamm, Robert Haddick, Mike Giles, Lars Loberg, Francis Ogden, Douglas Seidl, Tad Beutin, Ryan Stahl  |
| UNEXCUSED |  |
| GUESTS    | Donald Gieck, Mary Telfer, Patricia Randolph, Jim Jung, Jim Lemke, Samantha Ratliff, Ben Terbian, Heather Foster, Christopher Geurts, Nicole Mark, Colin Kenzie, Doug, Sammy Inn |

**C. AGENDA APPROVAL/REPAIR**

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| DISCUSSION |  |
| ACTION     |  |

**D. REVIEW COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT**

|            |                               |
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| DISCUSSION | Chair read mission statement. |
| ACTION     |                               |

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| DISCUSSION | Chair explained public comment.<br>Mary Tolfer spoke on the resolution she authored to end trapping on public lands. She says trapping leads to higher mouse populations and more tick borne illness.<br>Patricia Randolph spoke on the resolution she authored to end trapping on public lands. She related how after coyotes and foxes near her where trapped the mouse population and also tick population exploded. She was bitten and got Lymes disease. She says we need to stop killing predators because it unbalances ecosystem and hurts human health.<br>Don Gieck spoke on his resolution to limit the number of gun deer hunters on Natural Bridge State Park. Has lost stands and trail cameras in the last few years due to trespassing problems. Deer population on his property has been significantly decreased. Many neighbors of the park feel that since 2013 when it was opened to unrestricted hunting there have been very negative consequences. |
| ACTION     |   |

**II. INFORMATION & ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Citizen Resolutions**

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| 1. | Creating a centralized list of timber sales (550118) | [PRESENTER]  |
|    | DISCUSSION   | Chair introduced resolution. Bidding is a good process but open solicitations can be a headache. If DNR can do this it could be helpful - more so to some than to others. Why hasn't the free market implemented this idea? This would not a requirement, so people would have the option to choose to participate or not. |
|    | ACTION   | Motion to advance. Motion Carried on voice vote.   |
|    | PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE                                | DEADLINE   |
|    | Motion by Steve Klock, second by Curt Loew.          |  |
| 2. | End trapping on our public lands (131218, 132018)    | [PRESENTER]  |
|    | DISCUSSION   | Need to encourage utilization of public lands. Trapping is only hunting type activity where people are allowed to use public domain for private gain. Trapping plays an important role in wildlife and land management. Tradition  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | of trapping helped build America. Trapping provides the DNR with almost all of their data on some species - bobcat, otter, etc. Jim Jung gets 6-10 complaints on trapping per year. |
| ACTION  | Motion to reject . Motion carried on voice vote.  |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE                           | DEADLINE  |
| Motion by Steve Klock, second by Michael Hayes. |   |

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|---|---|-------------|
| 3.  | Restore public funding for public lands (120218, 230218, 420418, 540618)  | [PRESENTER] |
| DISCUSSION                                  | Chair introduced resolution. One of the changes in the last year is that the DNR now has a lands division that is responsible for core maintenance type items on all types of DNR properties. Legislature has been cutting DNR over last few years. Resolution does not speak to specific plan for funding but does have a valid call for more support for public lands management. |             |
| ACTION                                      | Motion to advance . Motion carried on a voice vote.   |             |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE                       | DEADLINE  |             |
| Motion by Curt Loew, second by Steve Klock. |   |             |

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| 4.   | Limit the number of gun deer hunters in Natural Bridge State Park (570518)  | [PRESENTER] |
| DISCUSSION                                       | Members expressed sympathy for authors situation. Curt Loew spoke about a similar situation that had happened in Chippewa County that resolved itself over time. Jim Lemke mentioned that some time in the next few years the master plan for the area would get reviewed and that would be a good time to hit this issue. Jim Jung explained that prior to the statewide change, hunting was regulated by each property manager that's why each park was different.  |             |
| ACTION   | Motion to amend the resolution by changing the be it resolved clause to read the Conservation Congress work with the DNR (instead of state legislature) to limit number of gun deer hunters in Natural Bridge State Park by Bryce Luchterhand, second by Steve Klock.<br>Motion to amend the amendment to include both the DNR and state legislature in the whereas clause by Michael Hayes, second by Larry Wehrheim.<br>Motion to amend the amendment failed on voice vote 9-2.<br>Motion to amend carried on a voice vote.<br>Motion to advance. Motion carried on voice vote. |             |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE                            | DEADLINE  |             |
| Motion by Steve Klock, second by Craig Raschein. |   |             |

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| 5.   | Preserve silence on state lands (130418)  | [PRESENTER] |
| DISCUSSION                                   | Chair introduced resolution. Committee members discussed pros and cons of items in the resolution. How is this issue addressed in master planning process for state properties. Discussion on users who financially support lands through licenses, etc. versus users who don't pay fees for their particular activity. |             |
| ACTION                                       | Motion by Steve Klock to advance, second by Dave Ninneman. Motion failed 6-4 on hand vote.<br>Motion to reject. Motion passed 6-4 on hand vote.   |             |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE                        | DEADLINE  |             |
| Motion by Craig Raschein, 2nd Keith Propson. |   |             |

**B. Regional master planning update**

Jim Lemke

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| DISCUSSION            | Jim Lemke explained the mater planning process. There are specific plans for each park or property within the master plans for each large ecological landscape. Currently there are 5 of the 16 ecological landscapes going through master planning process. All 16 are supposed to be done within a 5 year time farm that started in 2017. All master plans are ultimately approved by NRB. |  |
| ACTION                |  |  |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE | DEADLINE   |  |
|                       |  |  |

**C. Act 20 land sales update**

Jim Lemke

|                       |  |          |
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| DISCUSSION            | Jim Lemke explained that Act 20 mandated marketing 10,000 acres by end of 2017. Real estate office was able to achieve this. Many areas were offered just to units of government or tribes. So far 4,753 acres have been sold. The department continues to market remaining properties because the properties that were identified for sale did not fit in management plans. It makes sense to divest of them and stop paying PILT for them. |          |
| ACTION                |  |          |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE |  | DEADLINE |
|                       |  |          |

**D. Current stewardship acquisitions**

Jim Lemke

|                       |   |          |
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| DISCUSSION            | Jim Lemke gave background on stewardship program. Knowles-Nelson program sunsets in 2020. There is a separate part of Knowles-Nelson that works with grants for towns or counties or other groups to acquire properties. Easements are popular at this time because it allows the state to open more acres to the public for lower cost and does not lock the state into paying PILT going forward. |          |
| ACTION                |   |          |
| PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE |   | DEADLINE |
|                       |   |          |

**III. MEMBERS MATTERS**

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| DISCUSSION | Michael Hayes brought up invasive species. He believes the committee should be kept abreast of the subject. Bryce Luchterhand brought up local control in land use issues and that emerald ash borer is now present in Clark County and is a concern going forward. Steve Klosk asked if this committee is the one to address climate change. |
| ACTION     |   |

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

|                   |                 |
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| MEETING ADJOURNED | 12:47 pm        |
| SUBMITTED BY      | Nathanael Brown |
| DATE              | [Date]          |